

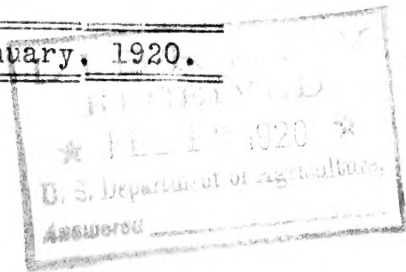
Historic, Archive Document

Do not assume content reflects current scientific knowledge, policies, or practices.

MONTHLY LETTER OF THE BUREAU OF ENTOMOLOGY
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Number 69

January, 1920.



CEREAL AND FORAGE INSECT INVESTIGATIONS

W. R. Walton, Entomologist in Charge

C. M. Packard, of the Hagerstown, Md., station, and W. J. Phillips, of the station at Charlottesville, Va. spent a short time in Washington during the month.

H. D. Smith of the laboratory at Schenectady, N. Y., has resigned from the service, effective January 17, 1920.

E. M. Searls, of the Schenectady, N. Y., laboratory, has resigned from the service, effective December 31, for the purpose of completing his school work.

T. D. Urbahns, for many years in charge of the California field station of this branch of the Bureau, has resigned to accept a position with the California State Board of Agriculture, effective, February 1. Mr. Urbahns expects to be located at Sacramento, and to work in close cooperation with his successor in the Bureau work.

C. M. Packard, recently in charge of the station at Hagerstown, Md., has been promoted to the position vacated by Mr. Urbahns, and will take up his new work some time during the month of February. Mr. Packard formerly acted as Mr. Urbahns' assistant in the California work, and is thoroughly familiar with its requirements.

DECIDUOUS FRUIT INSECT INVESTIGATIONS

A. L. Quaintance, Entomologist in Charge

The laboratory at Seaview, Wash., where investigations of cranberry insects have been made during the past two seasons in cooperation with the Washington Agricultural Experiment Station, has been discontinued, and H. K. Plank will be placed in charge of the Bureau's laboratory to be reestablished in Michigan for the purpose of making investigations of deciduous fruit insects in that region.

B. R. Leach, who has been in charge of field operations in the control of the codling moth at Dover, Del., during the past season, has been transferred to Riverton, N. J., where he will make investigations of insecticides for the Japanese beetle and additional studies of its biology.

Wm. A. Hoffman, who has been assisting in connection with pecan insect investigations at Brownwood, Tex., has been transferred to Riverton, N. J., where he will assist Mr. Leach in investigations of insecticides against the Japanese beetle.

John B. Gill, in charge of the Bureau's laboratory at Monticello, Fla., where investigations are being made of pecan insects, is temporarily in Washington.

Curtis P. Clausen, a graduate of the University of California, has been appointed specialist in insect parasites of the Japanese beetle,

and will soon sail for Japan, where he will undertake a study of all natural enemies of this insect in that country, with the view to introduce these natural enemies of the beetle in New Jersey.

LIBRARY

Mabel Colcord, Librarian

New Books

- Berlese, Antonio. *Cli insetti*. v. 2, fasc. 20-21 and 22-23. Milano, Societa editrice libraria, 1919-1920. p. 537-651
- Carnegie Institution of Washington. Contribution to the genetics of *Drosophila melanogaster*. 388 p., illus., plates. (Carnegie Pub. 278.) Washington, 1919. Contents: Morgan, T.H., and Bridges, C.B. The origin of gynandromorphs. 2. Bridges, C.B., and Morgan, T.H. The second chromosome group of mutant characters. 3. Sturtevant, A.H. Inherited linkage variation in the second chromosome. 4. Morgan, T.H. A demonstration of genes modifying the character notch.
- Druke, Adolpho. *Catalogo de fauna brasileira editados pelo Museu Paulista Sao Paulo, Brazil*. v. 4. *As Chrysididas do Brazil*. 31 p. Sao Paulo, Typ. do "Diario oficial," 1913.
- Hempel, Adolph. *Catalogo de fauna brasileira editados pelo Museu Paulista Sao Paulo, Brazil*. v. 3, *As Coccidas do Brazil*. 77 p. 1912.
- Houser, J.S. Destructive insects affecting Ohio shade and forest trees. p. 161-487. Ohio Exp. Sta. Bul. 332. November, 1918 (Rec'd January, 1920).
- Swain, A.F. A synopsis of the Aphididae of California. (California Univ. Tech. Bul. Ent. v. 3, No. 1, 221 p., 17 pl. Nov. 1, 1919.)
- Vaud (Canton) Switz.-Dept. de l'agriculture, de l'industrie et du commerce. 3 me service. Agriculture. Phylloxera. Rapport 1917-1918. Lausanne, 1918-1919.
- Wagner, H. *Sphingidae, Subfam. Philampelinae*. Berlin, W. Junk. Mar. 30, 1915. (Lepidopterorum catalogus, ed. H. Wagner, pars. 21.)
- Wytsman, P. *Genera insectorum*, fasc. 164-171. Bruxelles, 1914-1916. Contents: 164. *Lepidoptera Heterocera - Clyptipterygidae*, by E. Meyrick. 1914. 165. *Lepidoptera Heterocera. Helidrinidae*, by E. Meyrick. 1914. 166. *Coleoptera. Histeridae*, by Heinrich Birkhardt. 1916. 167. *Orthoptera. Locustidae. Subfam. Sagtinae*, by A.N. Caudell. 1916. 168. *Orthoptera. Locustidae. Subfam.*

Heterodinae, by A.N. Caudell. 1916. 169. Lepidoptera Rhopalocera, Fam. Nymphalidae. Subfam. Acraeinae, by K. Jordan and H. Eltringham. 1916. 170. Orthoptera. Acridiidae. Subfam. Pamphoginae, by Ignacio Bolivar. 1916. 171. Orthoptera. Locustidae. Subfam. Mecopodinae, by A. N. Caudell. 1916.

TRUCK CROP INSECT INVESTIGATIONS

F. H. Chittenden, Entomologist in Charge

Eradication work against the sweet-potato weevil is assuming its usual seasonal importance. About 1,250,000 sweet-potato draws will be grown and distributed in the Mississippi district of four infested counties over a strip of territory 24 by 78 miles. It is expected that in Florida, in view of the reduced infestation apparent in Baker County, a similar quantity will be sufficient for the draw delivery there. The new infestation, to which W. H. Carpenter has been assigned, east of the Pascagoula River in Mississippi, is small but difficult to reach and will require some effort to handle properly. Practically all of the Mississippi growers whose property is infested have been signed up, and it is believed that there will be little difficulty in Florida.

With regard to the clean-up campaign, it has been necessary in some isolated cases in the Baker-Charleston project to conduct a clean-up by hired laborers under the supervision of inspectors as in a number of cases the growers themselves have not been sufficiently careful or persistent and the hogging down has not been thorough. An unusually good opportunity will be afforded for eradication by the fact that the acreage of infested fields is smaller than it has been for many years. B. L. Boyden reports that the winter reinspection is almost completed in Baker County and that all of the fields and most of the banks will be clean by February 15.

A. L. Johnson has been appointed field assistant in insect control for work on sweet-potato weevil inspection in the State of Alabama.

A. B. Jarrell has resigned, effective January 15, to take up personal supervision of his Florida farm.

SOUTHERN FIELD CROP INSECT INVESTIGATIONS

J. L. Webb, Entomological Assistant Acting in Charge

George H. Bradley, of the Mound, La., station, spent several days in Washington during the latter part of the month doing some library work and studying the Museum collection.

Elmer Johnson, detailed by the Bureau of Public Roads to the cotton boll weevil laboratory, was in Washington for a short period during the month.

STORED PRODUCT INSECT INVESTIGATIONS

E. A. Back, Entomologist in Charge

Richard T. Cotton, of Orlando, Fla., spent two weeks during the month at headquarters, preparing results of his investigations for publication.

At the request of the Navy Department, Dr. E. A. Back investigated the Navy Supply Base at Hampton Roads on January 20, to advise regarding the care of foodstuffs.

J. C. Bridwell, a graduate of the Iowa Agricultural College, has been appointed "Specialist in Bruchidae and their parasites," with headquarters at Honolulu. The increased plantings of the introduced Algaroba tree throughout the Hawaiian Islands has led to the development, during the past few years, of the manufacture of a valuable stock feed from the seed pods of this tree. Chemical analyses prove that the algaroba bean weevil (Bruchus prosopis) which was introduced into the Islands along with its host plant, is responsible for a large loss in the protein content of the feed. Because of the equable climate and the ripening of successive crops of pods throughout the year, the infestation of the pods on the tree is heavy and probably will not yield to artificial control measures. Several parasites already present in Hawaii may be accomplishing all that parasites can in limiting the damage caused by the weevil.

There occur in the southwestern United States a considerable number of bruchids that attack the native mesquite (the Hawaiian algaroba, Prosopis juliflora, is a mesquite). Mr. Bridwell will make a study of these bruchids and their parasites with a view to relieving the Hawaiian situation by introducing parasites which give promise of usefulness.

Mr. Bridwell has had a wide experience in entomology, though he has published little, his latest paper being on Hawaiian bruchids and their parasites, published in the Proceedings of the Hawaiian Entomological Society for 1918. As assistant entomologist of the Hawaiian Board of Agriculture and Forestry, and as member of the Fullaway-Bridwell expedition sent by that Board to Africa in search of parasites of fruit flies, Mr. Bridwell became thoroughly familiar with the process of rearing and caring for parasites. Recently Mr. Bridwell has been a specialist in insects at the Bishop Museum, in Honolulu. He has a large private collection of Hymenoptera, in which he has specialized, and a library.